

TOP SECRET

3 September 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 3 September 1980

The Director chaired the meeting. []

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The Director announced Harry Fitzwater's promotion to EP-5. []

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Fitzwater reported [] retirements to meet the 31 August deadline. He said [] new employees are ready to come on board and that another [] have been cleared for employment. He advised that personnel will be brought aboard during this month at a rate consistent with entitlements and the need to arrive at ceiling strength on 30 September. Lastly, Fitzwater noted the October pay raise of 9.1 percent will result in approximately the same pay for a GS-14, step 10 as that of a GS-18. []

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Strong said New York Times columnist Richard Burt phoned yesterday asking if his use of the name of one of our employees [] in a column he is preparing would pose any serious problem to us. He explained, in this connection, that his upcoming article deals with an allegation that former Secretary of State Kissinger attempted to undermine the Carter-Vance position on SALT in 1977. A brief discussion followed wherein it was agreed that: (1) Burt be advised that use of [] name would pose a very serious problem and (2) Burt be provided no additional information which could add to his story on this allegation. []

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[] said Hitz is on the Hill this morning doing some legwork to promote passage of Identities Legislation. [] alerted the Director to a possible phone call from Hitz asking that the Director contact a Congressman or two to bolster support for this legislation. The Director said the Attorney General phoned yesterday to apprise him of the contents of the DoJ statement to be presented by Assistant Attorney General Keuch at the upcoming House Judiciary Committee hearings on Civil and Constitutional Rights. The Director said he was advised that a copy of the statement is being forwarded to Subcommittee Chairman Edwards. Silver was pleased to note that the Solicitor General of the United States has written an opinion which upholds the constitutionality of Identities Legislation as written.

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TOP SECRET

[] advised that the Hill is growing anxious for briefings on the Nicaragua situation; he said a sharp letter (prepared by staffers) has already been received from HPSCI Chairman Boland. The Director noted it has now been a week since he provided a memorandum to David Aaron on our position re Nicaragua. He added that he provided the same explanation in his meeting yesterday with Secretary Muskie. Mr. Carlucci said Department of State perceptions in this matter is a continuing problem that needs to be resolved. He noted also our position expressed in the Director's memorandum is already known on the Hill. Mr. Carlucci advised that he will take up this matter later today in his meeting with Newsom and Aaron. []

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[] said the House Appropriations Committee will take its 1981 budget recommendation to the floor on 15 September. []

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In response to the Director's query, [] said further action on the Hughes-Ryan Amendment is being held up on the Hill pending the outcome of Identities Legislation. []

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In response to Mr. Carlucci's query, [] and Kerr explained that Senator Nunn only was briefed on Soviet current activities in the Transcaucasus and that a memorandum on this topic was forwarded to both the HPSCI and the SSCI. Relatedly and in response to the Director's query, Lehman said he was uncertain as to whether or not the HPSCI or SSCI had received SNIEs on this topic; he said he would find out and report. []

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Wortman said GSA Administrator Freeman has engaged NAPA to study how GSA might operate more effectively in the future, i.e., as a quasi-federal agency, as a regulatory agency, or continue running as is. He said the study is due to Admiral Freeman by 1 December in draft, in final by 31 December. He noted in particular a significant number of high-powered personages from industry and government who will conduct the study. Wortman also reported another study underway--an outgrowth of a meeting of Federal executives at Cherry Hill last year which will provide a comprehensive review of the government's classification system. He said this study is to be completed by January 1981. []

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The Director complimented Lehman and Hineman and NFAC personnel for excellent coverage of the recent crisis in Poland; he noted especially the incisiveness of NFAC reporting. []

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The Director called attention to the Washington Post's reference today to his meeting yesterday with Secretary Muskie and the Secretary's new optimism re the hostages stemming from the shaping of a new government in Iran. The Director said he noted to the Secretary his skepticism but also that he would advise NFAC analysts to remain objective and be alert to any positive signs which may emerge from the new situation in Iran, e.g., evidence one way or another in Iran which may affect the situation of the hostages.

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